

# MEADOWOOD TIMELINE



2001  
To  
2012



## 2001

April – May

Three public meetings held for planning at Meadowood.  
More than 460 comments received in meetings & correspondence.

October

Congress approved acquisition of the Meadowood Farm (800 acres) in Fairfax County, Virginia, for public recreation.

**NOTE:** Not an exchange per se but rather an acquisition tied to the transfer of approximately 235 acres previously identified for residential development under the 1999 Reuse Plan at the former Lorton Prison site.

## 2002

November

Proposed Planning Analysis/Environmental Assessment to be mailed to the public.

## 2003

Formal opening of the Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area (Meadowood SRMA)

August

*Lower Potomac River Draft Coordinated Management Plan* completed. (Cooperative prepared with the State of Maryland to determine levels of use for BLM and State lands in Charles County, Maryland. The first of its kind in BLM history.)

Over 900 acres inventoried and archaeological and historical site monitoring conducted in both the Meadowood SRMA and Douglas Point areas.

January

*Meadowood Farm Planning Analysis Environmental Assessment* completed. End of Governor's Consistency Review.

March	Land Use Plan approved BLM designated the site a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA).
April	The cadastral survey of Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area commences. Portions of the East parcel and portions of the West parcel are surveyed by BLM Eastern States, Cadastral Survey, ES-956
Spring	Meadowood Farm open for some public uses.
May	Four miles of trail opened to the public. ORV/OHV use would not be permitted on Meadowood Farm
October	Wild Horse & Burro Adoption held at Meadowood.

## 2004

Lower Potomac Field Station and many partners, received the BLM Director's prestigious Four Cs Award for the *Lower Potomac River Proposed Coordinated management Plan*. (Conservation through Cooperation, Consultation, Communication) Decision record for the approved plan was signed in September, 2004.

## 2005

Continued partnership with Fairfax County Park Authority resulted in completion of an intensive archaeological survey of over 400 acres in the Meadowood SRMA. Over 100 new prehistoric and historic archaeological sites have been discovered within the SRMA. Volunteers have contributed over 800 hours in support of this partnership.

5-year Special Recreation Permit issued to Simple Changes, Inc., a nonprofit therapeutic riding group affiliated with Friends of Meadowood.

Two Wild Horse & Burro Adoptions held at Meadowood. U.S. Army Caisson Platoon brought their adopted horses for public display.

Won first place at the 2005 ESRI International Users Conference for the Meadowood SRMA GEOBOOK, an interactive digital book.

Old fencing is removed and replaced with new fencing around horse pastures and barn area.

## 2006

Opened additional 300 acres at Meadowood West Parcel for public trail use.

Summer 2006 West Meadows and parking lot at 10207 Old Colchester Road opens.

Invasive weed treatment applied to 60 acres at Meadowood West and 200 trees planted to restore damaged lands and improve bird and wildlife habitat.

Universally Accessible walkway constructed to the conference facility and renovated conference room and facilities to meet these standards.

Program initiated with Audubon Society of Northern Virginia volunteers to lead monthly nature walks and conduct bird and nature surveys three times per year.

Held over 25 public meetings, volunteer events, and outreach programs.

Identified over 200 new archaeological sites at SRMA.

## 2007

New Meadowood West Trail Sign unveiled.

Wild Horse & Burro Adoption – Of 42 available animals, 28 horses and 6 burros were adopted to good homes.

Spring 2007 Meadowood Trailhead Parking Lot opens at 10324 Belmont Boulevard

Staff and volunteers completed a bridge project that crosses the east parcel trail.

Trail Dynamics, professional trail builders from North Carolina, spent 2 weeks at Meadowood assessing existing and planned trails; taught mechanized trail construction class to SRMA staff and that of four other agencies. Class attendees built 2,500 feet of 5-foot-wide natural surface trail. Trail Dynamics flagged over 5,000 feet of new and rerouted trails.

## 2008

Mustang Trailhead (10702 Harley Road) parking lot is constructed during the fall and winter of 2008. Parking lot opens in Spring of 2009.

Old perimeter fencing is removed and new fencing is constructed around the East Meadows next to Gunston and Harley Roads

Water service updated from well water to Fairfax County Water to service Meadowood and the Lower Potomac Field Station

## 2009

January

Unveiled the first National System of Public Lands sign at the SRMA.

February

Awarded \$300,000 in American Recovery & Reinvestment Act money for trail improvement. Added two term positions and distributed funds via contractors, equipment rental and construction services.

Cadastral survey of the West parcel of Meadowood continues.

Fall/Winter

The first deer management hunt is conducted on Meadowood and is helpful in controlling the deer population within the greater Mason Neck peninsula.

## 2010

Participated in new pilot program for Inner City Youth Outings in partnership with other organizations.

Provided Environmental Education programs and overnight camps for over 7,000 youth in the DC/MD/VA area as part of the First Lady's "Let's Take It Outside, Initiative.

Lower Potomac Field Station volunteers provided over 10,000 hours on a wide variety of projects from trail building to tree planting.

Received \$350,000 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to rebuild three miles of trail, construct one mile of new trail, rebuild a stream crossing and construct a new trailhead (Hidden Pond Trailhead 10705 Belmont Boulevard). The Meadowood trail system will soon connect to the 1,000-acre Pohick Bay Regional Park along the Potomac River.(the crossing over Gunston Road has not yet been completed

September, The cadastral survey of the West Parcel of Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area is completed.

September, Boundary marking begins on the West parcel of Meadowood

## 2011

Boundary marking continues on the West parcel of Meadowood and is completed in March.

New Field Manager hired, E.Lynn Burkett

Environmental Assessment of the barn begins. Engineering report is completed.

Plans follow through with the wayside kiosk project involving several different partners on Mason Neck, VDOT, Fed. Highways and the National Park Service.

Began construction on portions of the new hiking and mountain bike trail (South Branch Loop Trail). Completed portions of the trail are already open. The completed trail with boardwalk is scheduled to be open by December 2011.

Began brokering agreement with the Navy pertaining to Maryland Point. Partners involved include, the Nature Conservancy, the Chesapeake Conservancy, the Conservation Fund and the Maryland DNR.

2012

Approached about 200+ acre conservation easement adjacent to Meadowood (Hoff property)

Approached about purchase of small private property off of Gunston Road (BushRod).

June 2012

Officially opened the new hiking and mountain bike trail (South Branch Loop Trail) at Meadowood

**PARTNERS & VOLUNTEERS:** Private sector, governmental and non-governmental organizations including: Friends of Meadowood, Audubon Society of Northern Virginia, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Mason Neck Lion's Club and the Mason Neck Horse Coalition.



*Guardians of the Past - Stewards for the Future*